AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace paragraph [0023], at page 8, lines 20-25, with:

Alkyl is, for example, linear or branched chain alkyl having 1 to 10 carbon atoms such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, isopentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, ~~octyl,~~ nonyl, decyl and the like, with preference given to lower alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms and the like.

Replace paragraph [0032], at page 11, lines 8-12, with:

Alkoxy is, for example, linear or branched chain alkoxy having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, such as methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy, ~~penzyloxy~~ pentyloxy, hexyloxy, octyloxy and the like, with preference given to lower alkoxy having 1 to 6 carbon atoms and the like.

Replace paragraph [0121], beginning at page 34, line 19, through page 35, line 2, with:

The unsaturated compound thus obtained is subjected to a catalytic hydrogenation reaction using a transition metal ~~contact~~ catalyst to reduce the carbon-carbon double bond. As the transition metal ~~contact~~ catalyst to be used, for example, palladium catalyst [for example, palladium carbon, tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium, dichloro bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium, palladium oxide etc.] can be mentioned. The catalytic hydrogenation reaction is carried out in a solvent such as alcohol solvent (e.g., methanol, ethanol etc.), acetic acid and the like, and a catalytic amount of an inorganic acid such as hydrochloric acid and the like may be added. This reaction is carried out using a hydrogen gas at normal pressure or under pressurization at a reaction temperature of about 0°C to 100°C. In addition, the enantioselective catalytic hydrogenation reaction of the unsaturated compound can be carried out by the method of Burk et al. [Burk et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc., vol. 117, 9375-9376 (1995)].

Replace paragraph [0243], at page 58, lines 3-16, with:

(1) The product (535 mg) resulting from Example 18 (2), triethylamine (0.28 mL) and ~~4-nitrobenzylamino~~ 4-nitrobenzylamine hydrochloride (311 mg) were dissolved in chloroform (7 mL), sodium triacetoxyborohydride (636 mg) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 hr. Saturated aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate solution was added to the reaction mixture, and the mixture was extracted with chloroform. The extract was washed with saturated brine and dried. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography to give 3-{(S)-2-tert-butoxycarbonylamino-3-[4-(4-nitrobenzylamino)-1-cyclohexyl]propionyl}-1,3-thiazolidine was obtained as a white amorphous trans form (412 mg) and a mixture (345 mg) of the trans form and a cis form in a white amorphous form.

Replace the paragraph at page 60, lines 16-24, with:

The plasma DPP-IV inhibitory activity of human and rat was measured by the fluorescence assay method. Using Gly-Pro-MCA (Peptide Institute Inc.) as a DPP-IV specific fluorescent substrate, reaction solutions having the following compositions and containing test substances having various concentrations were incubated at room temperature for 60 min and the measured (SPECTRA FLUOR, TECAN) fluorescent intensity (~~Exitation~~ Excitation 360 nm/Emission 465 nm) was taken as the DPP-IV activity.